

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO.

## INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO

50X1-HUM

DATE DISR 20 JAN 50

SUBJECT USIA Methods of Acquiring Currency  
for the Payment of Debts

NO OF PAGES 2

PLACE  
ACQUIRENO. OF ENCLS.  
(LISTED BELOW)

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DATE OF

SUPPLEMENT TO  
REPORT NO.

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

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1. USIA has a large debit account with the Russian Trade Mission in Austria and with Juschmeschtrans. In order to meet these and other debts and to acquire currency with which to buy materials ordered by Moscow, USIA has, among other devices, begun to use the two outlined below.
2. It is selling USIA goods direct to the Trade Mission; Martyushov of this organization has recently concluded a deal with USIA, whereby the latter will sell to him 100 new railway tankers from the Max-Werk G.m.b.H.\*
3. It has developed a system of compensation trade between Austria and the satellite countries, the main advantages of which are:
  - a. That the goods imported from the satellite states can be sold in Austria, thus realizing schillings for the payment of other Russian agencies.
  - b. That USIA can then claim that it is importing goods into Austria in exchange for those sent out of the country and thereby hope to obtain additional allocations of raw materials to the USIA factories from the Austrian authorities.
  - c. That, even should the Austrians refuse to accept such a compensation deal on account of the inferior quality of goods imported relative to those exported, the goods could still be brought into the country by USIA.
4. The two following deals of this type are at present under negotiation:
  - a. USIA has concluded a 3-month agreement with Kelimpex of Hungary, whereby the latter will each month supply sugar in exchange for USIA timber of a value of 500,000 Austrian schillings.

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b. Mannesmann Trauzl A.G. of Vienna, a USIA firm, is supplying to Hungary oil boring equipment valued at 305,000 in exchange for finished textiles of poor quality.

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Comment: A previous report stated that USIA was offering 100 railway tankers from the Rax-Werk for a total of \$418,000.

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